

Union Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Union	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	18.6%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	25.9%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	7.0%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,153	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	93.9%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	7.1%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	6.7	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	87.7%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	76.6%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	9.2%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	11.3%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	0.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	258.7	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	149.1	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	8.8*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	307.8	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	219.8	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	26.7	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	1.7	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 8	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	25.7%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	28.7%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	72.5%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	80.4%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	61.5%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

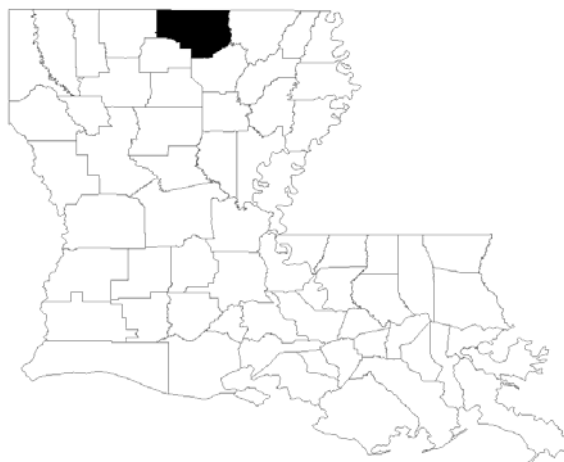
Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EMS/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Union Parish was established on March 13, 1839. Its name is derived from the sentiment of the time . .liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable. (from a speech by Daniel Webster). Also, as Andrew Jackson said, .the Union must and shall be preserved.

Union Parish, bordered by Arkansas to the north and the scenic Ouachita River to the east, is truly a nature lover's paradise. With 15,250-acre Lake D'Arbonne, a new state park, Upper Ouachita/D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuges, and Union Wildlife



Management Area, there are plenty of opportunities for fishing, boating, sailing, swimming and waterskiing. Attractions in Farmerville include Black History Parade, D'Arbonne Arts Festival, Watermelon Festival, and the Christmas Ceremony. In Bernice, see the 1899 Depot Museum and the 1939 wooden caboose in Depot Park. Also in Bernice are Sweet Onion, the Garland House, the J.W. Heard House, the Bernice Civic Clubhouse and the Alabama Methodist Church, all properties listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*. The Town of Marion features the Mayhaw Festival and National Register Hopkins House.

Parish Seat³ Farmerville

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

N/A

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	22,803
2003 (estimate)	22,966
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	69.8%
African-American	27.9%
Some other race.....	2.3%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	2.0%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	7.0%
5-14	14.1%
15-17	4.6%
18-19	2.8%
20-24	6.3%
25-64	50.3%
65 & over	14.9%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	113ft.
Land area in square miles	878
Water area in square miles	27.7

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	64°
January	54°
July	92°
Annual average rainfall	54 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Union Parish

Civilian.....	12,373
Employed	11,654
Unemployed.....	719
Unemployment.....	5.8%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Grambling State University
- Louisiana Tech University
- University of Louisiana at Monroe

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.